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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU NAMES COLLEGE OF SCIENCES DEAN

CHARLESTON -- Lida Wall, chair of the Department of Speech and Hearing Science at The Ohio State University in Columbus, has been named dean of the College of Sciences at Eastern Illinois University.

Wall, who begins her new job on Aug. 1, replaces Jon Laible who retired as dean in July. David Ebdon, associate dean in the college, has been serving as the acting dean.

"I'm very pleased Dr. Wall will be joining us. She has outstanding credentials, comes highly recommended and has the support of the College of Sciences. I'm certain she will make a strong, positive contribution to Eastern," said Eastern President David Jorns.

The College of Sciences, the university's second largest college, includes botany, chemistry, communication disorders and sciences, economics, geology/geography, mathematics, physics, political science, psychology, sociology/anthropology and zoology. It also houses programs in environmental biology, pre-medicine, pre-law and pre-engineering. There are some 2,140 under-

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graduate and more than 200 graduate majors in the college.

Terry Weidner, chair of the search committee, said, "Dr. Wall had broad support among the committee members, particularly because of her demonstrated leadership qualities in the development of a speech and hearing science department at The Ohio State University."

Wall is a former high school speech and English teacher, having spent seven years in the public schools and two years as a public health audiologist before joining the faculty at The Ohio State University in 1975.

She became acting chair of the university's Section of Speech and Hearing Science in 1986 and was instrumental in developing the section into a department, of which she became chair in 1988.

"I'm very pleased to have the opportunity to become a part of the Eastern Illinois University community. During my visit to the campus, I was very impressed with the quality of people within the College of Sciences and look forward to a productive relationship," Wall said.

Wall earned a bachelor's degree in speech communication from the University of Northern Colorado, a master's degree in audiology from the University of Wyoming and a doctorate in audiology from The Ohio State University. She is a certified audiologist.

She has authored a resource text for speech language pathologists and health professionals and has received more than \$1 million in grant funding to

conduct research on a variety of communication disorder topics, including the effects of age on speech and hearing.

Wall has written numerous articles for professional journals, including the Ear and Hearing Journal, American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) Journal and the Journal of Family Practice.

She also has been a presenter at state and national meetings of ASHA and the National Institute of Health, covering such topics as hearing disorders of children and adults, hearing loss in the elderly, auditory brainstem response and the use of hearing aids.

Wall's extensive committee work at The Ohio State University has included membership on the Social and Behavioral Sciences executive committee and the advisory board for the teacher certification program for speech-language pathologists.

Outside of the university, she has been associated with the Ohio Council of Audiology, the Directors of Speech and Hearing Programs for Ohio and the Ohio Speech and Hearing Association. She has served on the Ohio Department of Public Health's Hearing Advisory Committee, which sets screening standards for speech and hearing equipment and procedures.

Wall also has held leadership positions with ASHA, including serving as a site visitor and board member for the association's Professional Services Board and Educational Standards Board and Educational Testing Service panel member for examination development for clinical competence certification.